



NOTICE OF 30-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
Pelzer Upper Mill, Pelzer Lower Mill, Disposal Site East, and Disposal Site West
Pelzer, South Carolina

DHEC (the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control) is accepting public comments on a potential Voluntary Cleanup Contract until December 24, 2013.

The Voluntary Cleanup Contract, 13-5832-NRP, will affect approximately 57 acres identified by Anderson County tax map numbers 243-01-04-002, 244-10-02-001, 243-01-01-001, and 243-01-06-003. The Pelzer Heritage Commission (PHC) wants to acquire the property from its current owners. This Voluntary Cleanup Contract will be between DHEC and PHC.

The Pelzer Upper Mill and Pelzer Lower Mill property had been developed as textile mills. At the Pelzer Upper Mill the mill has been razed and only a single warehouse remains. At the Pelzer Lower Mill the mill has been razed and only the administrative building, water tower, and brick walls of four warehouses remain. The Disposal Site East and Disposal Site West were used as an unpermitted solid waste landfill and received material from the Pelzer textile mills and residences. General location uses around the property include residences and commercial businesses.

PHC wants to acquire the property and intends to develop it for parks, trails, restaurants and other commercial uses. If this Voluntary Cleanup Contract is implemented, DHEC will allow PHC to acquire the property as a "Brownfields Site" because of the potential for environmental pollution. PHC did not create the pollution, but will take steps to control it to keep the property safe for re-use.

DHEC will not hold PHC responsible for the pre-existing pollution in exchange for doing work under the Voluntary Cleanup Contract. Under State law, PHC will not be responsible if anyone is affected by the contamination. Entering into this contract does not reduce the responsibility of any former owners or operators of the site.

Under the proposed contract, PHC will test soil and groundwater from the property. If significant contamination is found, PHC will be required to take additional steps to protect human health and the environment.

DHEC uses Voluntary Cleanup Contracts to keep Brownfield sites in productive reuse. The proposed contract is available at http://www.scdhec.gov/environment/lwm/public_notice.asp. Printed copies may be obtained from the DHEC Freedom of Information Office at (803) 898-3882.

Citizens may provide written, email, or telephone comments on the proposed contract until December 24, 2013. Questions or comments may be directed to Mark Berenbrok, Project Manager, email berenbm@dhc.sc.gov, telephone (803) 898-0736 or Alex Fulmer, email FulmerWA@dhc.sc.gov or TOLL-FREE telephone (866) 576-3432. Written comments should be directed to either individual at SCDHEC, 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, SC 29201.